

1318.3 - Qld Stats, Jun 2009

Previous ISSUE Released at 11:30 AM (CANBERRA TIME) 22/06/2009

Summary

Contents



Land Management and Farming in Queensland, 2007-08 **(Feature Article)**



Population

Includes: Population change, Queensland, Regional population growth

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Labour Force

Includes: Job vacancies, Employed persons, Unemployment, Participation rate, Employed persons by industry

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Prices

Includes: Consumer price index (CPI)

,



Production

Includes: Building approvals, Building activity, Engineering construction

,



Housing Finance

Includes: Housing finance commitments

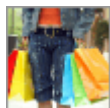
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Incomes

Includes: Average weekly earnings

,



Consumption and Investment

Includes: Retail trade, New motor vehicle sales, Private capital expenditure

,



Tourist Accommodation

Includes: Queensland hotels, motels and serviced apartments with 15 or more rooms

,



Interstate Trade

Includes: Queensland's interstate trade



State Accounts

Includes: State final demand

What's new at ABS ...

WHAT'S NEW AT ABS ...

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SUNSHINE STATE TO SHINE LIGHT ON NATIONAL COMMUNITY INDICATORS

Policy and decision-makers from around Australia will assemble on 22-23 July 2009 in Brisbane to discuss a national approach to the development of community-based indicators. The Community Indicators Summit 09 will provide a unique opportunity for those interested in the indicators to share experiences, exchange ideas and report on advancements in the

field in Australia and internationally.

Community-based indicators are gaining impetus in an important global discussion about moving 'beyond GDP' as merely an economic measure of progress in societies to include social and environmental concerns.

One of the major outcomes expected from the Summit is the establishment of a national network of community indicators practitioners as part of an evolving National Statistical Service. The Summit will examine how community indicator practitioners can work towards a more coordinated, coherent and consistent approach to measuring progress and well-being at the international, national and sub-national level. The Summit provides a unique opportunity for those interested in community based indicators to share experiences, exchange ideas and strategies and report on advancements in the field of community indicators in Australia and internationally.

The themes for the Summit are:

- Measuring Australia's Progress (MAP) and National Development Index (NDI);
- Community Indicators for Better Local Government; and
- Measuring Well-being in Indigenous Communities.

The Australian Bureau of Statistics and the Summit Project Board are developing an exciting program which will allow delegates to discuss issues regarding the development of community indicators for the future. A number of highly respected industry leaders across government, non-government, academic and business sectors have agreed to share their experiences and contribute to the discussion on developing a common set of indicators to Australia. Speakers include:

- Jon Hall, OECD Global Project on Measuring the Progress of Societies
- David Tune, Associate Secretary (Domestic Policy), Prime Minister and Cabinet
- Mark Francis, Executive Director, Policy Development and Coordination, Qld Department of Communities
- Jackie Huggins - Indigenous Leader, Director of Telstra Foundation
- Leigh Gatt, Managing Director, Gatt Consulting, New Zealand Big Cities
- Dr Lance Emerson - CEO, Australian Research Alliance for Children and Youth (ARACY)

Registrations are flowing in for the Summit now. If you wish to be part of it contact inquiries@nss.gov.au or log on to www.nss.gov.au for more details.

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AGRICULTURAL COMMODITIES, AUSTRALIA, 2007-08

Agricultural Commodities, Australia, 2007-08 (cat. no. 7121.0) was released 22 May 2009. This publication contains final estimates for the main commodities collected in the 2007-08 Agricultural Resource Management Survey (ARMS). Included are statistics on land use, industry activity, crop and horticulture area and production, and livestock.

Some selected results for Queensland include:

- At 30 June 2008 there were 29,121 agricultural businesses. The beef cattle farming

industry was the largest sector and comprised 13,506 businesses followed by sugar cane farming with 3,264 businesses.

- In Queensland there was 173 million hectares of land managed by agricultural businesses (82% of state area).
- The total area sown to grain sorghum was 661,000 hectares and this yielded 2.5 million tonnes.
- The total area sown to wheat for grain in 2007-08 was 669,000 hectares resulting in wheat production of 954,000 tonnes.
- The total area of sugar cane cut for crushing was 355,000 hectares. Queensland production of 29.8 million tonnes was 91% of national production.
- The bearing area of bananas was 8,131 hectares resulting in production of 187,636 tonnes.
- The area planted to potatoes in 2007-08 was 3,354 hectares resulting in production of 99,241 tonnes.
- The area planted to tomatoes was 2,543 hectares resulting in production of 132,444 tonnes.
- Livestock numbers at 30 June 2008 in Queensland were 4.0 million sheep, 610,000 pigs, 11.9 million cattle and calves (99% for meat production and 1% for milk production) and 11.6 million chickens for meat production and 2.9 million chickens for egg production.

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WATER USE ON AUSTRALIAN FARMS, 2007-08

Water use on Australian Farms, 2007-08 (cat. no. 4618.0) was released 26 May 2009. This publication presents estimates of agricultural water use, including pastures and crops irrigated. Estimates are presented for Australia, state/territories and Natural Resource Management (NRM) regions, as well as for the Murray-Darling Basin. The estimates are compiled from data collected as part of the Agricultural Resource Management Survey (ARMS) for the year ended 30 June 2008.

Selected results for Queensland include:

- In 2007-08, Queensland's 29,121 agricultural businesses used 2,039 gigalitres of water for agricultural production. This represents 29% of the national agricultural water use.
- Of this total 2,039 gigalitres, 90% (1,842 gigalitres) was used for the irrigation of pastures and crops and 10% (196 gigalitres) was used for other agricultural purposes such as stock watering and the cleaning of dairies and piggeries.
- In Queensland, 31% of agricultural businesses reported using water for irrigation in 2007-08. A total of 512,774 hectares was irrigated in 2007-08, a 12% increase from that irrigated in 2006-07. The average application rate reduced from 4.0 megalitres per hectare (ML/ha) in 2006-07 to 3.6 ML/ha in 2007-08.
- Whilst reporting a downturn in area under crop, sugar cane producers continued to be the largest irrigator in Queensland, using 45% of the state's irrigation water at an application rate of 4.5ML/ha in 2007-08.
- Of the 168 agricultural businesses engaged in the production of cotton, 83% reported using water for irrigation. In 2007-08 cotton used 105 gigalitres, a decrease of 46% from the 194 gigalitres used in irrigation in 2006-07. Cotton (4.9 ML/ha) had the highest application rate of pastures and crops irrigated in Queensland.

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AG MAG - THE AGRICULTURE NEWSLETTER, MAY 2009

Ag Mag - The Agriculture Newsletter, May 2009 (cat. no. 7101.0) was released 29 May 2009. This electronic newsletter provides topical information about the ABS's agricultural statistics program. It looks at the program's structure, responsibilities, outputs and the status of current projects. This edition of Ag Mag highlights the results of the 2007-08 Agricultural Resource Management Survey (ARMS), plans for the major 2008-09 Agricultural Statistics collection, and recent releases relating to the value of irrigated production and water use. As well, it looks at a new suite of collections to provide information on the wheat industry and an exciting new project ABS are about to undertake as part of the Great Barrier Reef Rescue program.

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EXPERIMENTAL LIFE TABLES FOR ABORIGINAL AND TORRES STRAIT ISLANDER AUSTRALIANS, 2005-07

Experimental Life tables for Aboriginal and Torres Strait islander Australians, 2005-07 (cat. no. 3302.0.55.003) was released 25 May 2009. This product contains abridged experimental life tables for male and female Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander (Indigenous) Australians for the reference period. A life table is a statistical model used to represent mortality of a population. In its simplest form, a life table is generated from age-specific death rates and the resulting values are used to measure mortality, survivorship and life expectancy.

Some selected results for Queensland include:

- For 2005-07, life expectancy at birth for Queensland Indigenous males was estimated to be 68.3 years, 10.3 years less than life expectancy for non-Indigenous Queensland males (78.6 years).
- In Queensland, life expectancy at birth for indigenous females was estimated to be 73.6 years, 8.9 years less than life expectancy for non-Indigenous females (82.5 years).
- The difference in life expectancy between Indigenous males and females was 5.3 years while the difference between non-Indigenous males and females was 3.9 years.
- Queensland Indigenous males and females had a higher life expectancy than the national average for Indigenous males and females (1.1 years higher for males and 0.7 years higher for females).

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POPULATION ESTIMATES: CONCEPTS, SOURCES AND METHODS, 2009

Population Estimates: Concepts, Sources and Methods, 2009 (cat. no. 3228.0.55.001) was released 12 June 2009. This publication provides a description of the concepts, sources and methods used by the ABS in the production of population estimates. Chapter 1 gives an overview of the range of population estimates produced by the ABS and outlines some of the major uses for these population estimates. Chapters 2 and 3 outline the methods and data used to produce population estimates at the national/state and statistical local area (SLA) levels, while Chapter 4 outlines the method used to produce population estimates for

customised geography. Chapters 5 to 8 provide additional information of components of population growth and of selected sub-populations. Chapter 9 describes the data sources used to produce population estimates. Further technical details are provided in the Appendices.

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DEMOGRAPHY NEWS, MAY 2009

Demography News, May 2009 (cat. no. 3106.0) was released 25 May 2009. Demographic statistics provide measures of the Australian population, its size, growth, composition and geographic distribution, as well as the components that shape population change: births, deaths and migration.

This newsletter provides information about the latest demographic research and analysis being undertaken by the ABS.

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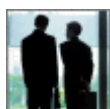
RECORDED CRIME - VICTIMS, AUSTRALIA, 2008

Recorded Crime - Victims, Australia, 2008 (cat. no. 4510.0) was released 4 June 2009. This publication contains uniform national statistics relating to victims of crime for a selected range of offences that have become known to and recorded by police. The statistics provide indicators of the level and nature of recorded crime as it relates to victims in Australia and measures change over time. It also provides a breakdown of the selected offences by: victim characteristics (age and sex); the nature of the incident (weapon use and location); and outcome of police investigations at 30 days. These data are also available by state and territory.

Some selected results for Queensland include:

- In 2008, homicide and related offences comprised 55 murders, 73 attempted murders and 3 manslaughter offences. Males accounted for 61% of victims of homicide and related offences.
- There were 19,423 cases of assault and 4,440 cases of sexual assault recorded in 2008. Males accounted for 62% of victims of assault and 16% of victims of sexual assault.
- In Queensland nearly half (48%) of victims of assault and nearly two-thirds (64%) of victims of sexual assault knew their offender.
- There were 1,806 robbery offences recorded in 2008 of which 47% involved weapons.
- There were 44,418 unlawful entry with intent offences of which 71% involved the taking of property.
- In 2008 there were 8,468 motor vehicle theft offences recorded.

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FORMS OF EMPLOYMENT, AUSTRALIA, NOVEMBER 2008

Forms of Employment, Australia, Nov 2008 (cat. no. 6359.0) was released 12 June 2009. This publication provides information about employed persons (excluding contributing family

workers) aged 15 years and over and their employment arrangements in the Australian workforce. Among the topics covered are the different types of employment arrangements including contract work, casual employment and leave entitlements, and employment characteristics, such as hours worked, industry and occupation. Estimates can be cross-classified by demographics such as state, sex, age, marital status and country of birth, as well as labour force characteristics.

Some selected results for Queensland include:

- In November 2008, there were approximately 2.2 million employed persons aged 15 years and over. Of these, 80% were employees, 9.2% independent contractors and 11% business operators.
- Of the 1.8 million employees, 75% had paid leave entitlements, that is, they were entitled to paid sick and/or paid holiday leave. The remaining 25% did not have any paid leave entitlements.
- In November 2008, 112,900 Queenslanders were multiple job holders.
- There were 91,700 people who found their job through a labour hire firm/employment agency in November 2008.

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PERSPECTIVES ON SPORT, MAY 2009

Perspectives on Sport, May 2009 (cat. no. 4156.0.55.001) was released 25 May 2009. The Perspectives on Sport provide users with articles that discuss issues relating to sport and sporting programs that are commonplace within the Australian political and media landscape. This issue features three articles - Football: Four Games, One Name; Health and Fitness Centres and Gymnasia and Women in Sport. These articles aim to provide further informed commentary to assist those debating these major issues.

Some selected results for Queensland include:

- In Queensland 16% of persons aged 15 years and over attended at least one game of Rugby league as a spectator (excluding junior and school sport) during the 12 months prior to interview in 2005-06 and 6.1% of Queenslanders aged 15 years and over attended a game of Rugby union.
- There were 185 fitness centres in Queensland as at 30 June 2005, a 61% increase on the number at 30 June 2001.
- In 2005-06, males and females aged 15 years and over had similar participation rates in sport and physical recreation activities (68% for males and 67% for females). Walking (524,100 females) was the most commonly reported physical recreation activity for women.

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AUSTRALIAN INDUSTRY, 2007-08

Australian Industry, 2007-08 (cat. no. 8155.0) was released 28 May 2009. This publication presents estimates derived using a combination of data from the Economic Activity Survey and business tax data sourced from the Australian Tax Office. For most industry divisions and subdivisions (as specified in the Australian and New Zealand Industrial Classification

(ANZSIC), 2006 edition), estimates at a national level are presented of: income; expenses; industry value added; operating profit before tax; capital expenditure; and selected components of these aggregates and derivations. State/territory estimates of income, employment, and wages and salaries, at the division level are also included.

This release also includes additional detailed data spreadsheets relating to the Energy Supply industry which was collected for the 2007-08 reference period.

Selected results for Queensland include:

- For total selected industries, Queensland contributed 20% of national employment, 19% of national wages and salaries and 20% of national sales and service income.
- Selected industries employed 2,039,000 persons in Queensland as at 30 June 2008. The Retail trade and Construction industries accounted for 13% each.
- The total wages and salaries paid for selected industries in 2007-08 was \$72,839 million. The Construction and Manufacturing industries accounted for 13% each.
- The total sales and service income for selected industries was \$453,720 million. The Manufacturing industry accounted for 17% followed by the Wholesale trade industry (15%).

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STATISTICAL LITERACY

Are you statistically literate?

In today's information-rich society we encounter statistical information on a daily basis ranging from unemployment rates, retail figures and cancer rates, to football ladders and cricket scores. Statistics tell interesting stories and enable us to make sense of the world. Statistics are essential for research, planning and decision-making purposes.

While it may be the issues rather than the statistics that grab people's attention, it should be recognised that it is the statistics that inform the issues. Being statistically literate means being equipped and having the ability to accurately understand, interpret and evaluate the data that inform these issues.

A lack of statistical literacy can result in misunderstandings and misrepresentation of data which can lead not only to erroneous conclusions, but a mistrust of statistics themselves.

If you are uncomfortable with using statistics, you are not alone. Many people shy away from using statistics because of their perceived complexity. People may:

- not know where to look to find the information they need
- be unfamiliar with the terminology
- lack confidence in their ability to make sense of the numbers

You do not have to be an expert at maths to work with statistics!

Numeracy implies a basic competence in mathematics, a basic understanding of numbers and figures. It is certainly a prerequisite to being statistically literate, but statistical literacy is not about being adept at formulating or understanding the methodology behind the numbers. Statistical literacy requires a basic understanding of statistical concepts and is the ability to

interpret the numbers and express that understanding in words.

Statistics may be presented in different ways, including tables, graphs, maps or text, or through numbers and symbols; they are not scary or boring if you know what they mean. For someone to be considered statistically literate, they need to be comfortable and competent with all of these forms.

There are several concepts that recur throughout the literature on statistical literacy. These fall into four key areas and can be considered in a practical manner as 'criteria' on which to base statistical literacy:

- Data Awareness
- The ability to understand statistical concepts
- The ability to analyse, interpret and evaluate statistical information
- The ability to communicate statistical information and understandings

If you would like to know more about statistical literacy and its relevance to you, check out the article: [What is statistical literacy and why is it important to be statistically literate?](#) as featured in Tasmanian State and Regional Indicators (cat. no. 1307.6).

If you are interested in Statistical training offered by the ABS please visit the National Statistics Training Institute theme page on the ABS website.

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AGE MATTERS, MAY 2009

[Age Matters](#), May 2009 (cat. no. 4914.0.55.001) was released 29 May 2009. Age Matters is a newsletter about age related statistics. It includes topical articles and reviews of relevant ABS publications. Age Matters highlights developments in statistics on the ageing population, and other information of likely interest to ageing researchers and policy makers. Interested readers are also invited to visit the Ageing theme page on the ABS website for links to ageing-relevant ABS datasets and other websites.

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CONCEPTUAL FRAMEWORK FOR FAMILY AND DOMESTIC VIOLENCE, 2009

[Conceptual Framework for Family and Domestic Violence](#), 2009 (cat. no. 4529.0) was released 18 May 2009. This product contains a conceptual framework for data relating to family and domestic violence.

Family and domestic violence is a significant social and policy issue that has profound psychological and financial impacts on the individual, their friends and family, and on the local and broader community.

Awareness of the incidence and prevalence of family and domestic violence has been increasing. However accurate data to support the development of policy, services and responses for victims and perpetrators is still lacking.

This Framework has:

- described issues in the collection of family and domestic violence data, for example the terminology and legislation;
- outlined elements of a definition of family and domestic violence;
- conceptualised the data elements that are required to describe family and domestic violence; and
- identified the research and police questions within each element of the framework.

In doing so the Framework will allow for a better understanding of family and domestic violence concepts, and the relationships between these concepts, that require measurement, and for identifying data gaps.

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EDUCATION NEWS, MAY 2009

Education News, May 2009 (cat. no. 1330.0) was released 27 May 2009. Education News keeps teachers and students up to date with ABS resources and data that is relevant to the school's sector. This newsletter highlights the latest curriculum related teaching resources, student activities and statistical tools that have been developed by ABS Education Services as well as other ABS resources that are useful for schools. Topics highlighted in this latest issue include:

- CensusAtSchool News
- Australian Social Trends
- An Idea for the Classroom
- Tourism and the Economy
- New Geography Activity
- Teaching Civics in Primary School
- Recently Released Publications

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CURF MICRODATA NEWS, MAY 2009

CURF Microdata News, May 2009 (cat. no. 1104.0) was released 29 May 2009. This newsletter is aimed at informing new and current Confidentialised Unit Record File (CURF) Microdata users about issues and developments in the access to, and use of, CURF Microdata. The newsletter periodically covers topics such as available and forthcoming microdata releases, terms and conditions of access, responsible access to microdata and best practice tips, pricing, microdata research outputs, frequently asked questions, and information about applying for ABS CURF microdata.

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MINING STATISTICS NEWSLETTER, MAY 2009

Mining Statistics Newsletter, May 2009 (cat. no. 8418.0) was released 12 June 2009. This is the first issue of this newsletter and presents information on recent mining industry statistics and related issues. It describes ABS work in this area, and advises on recent and forthcoming publications.

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ABS BUDGET OUTCOMES - CHANGES TO THE WORK PROGRAM 09/10 AND BEYOND

At the end of 2008, the Department of Finance and Deregulation, the Treasury and the ABS, undertook a review of the ABS's base funding in response to the reductions made in the ABS Work Program in 2008-09 to remain within our appropriation and the projected deficits the ABS was facing in the out-years. As a result of the review, the Government has announced in the Federal Budget that the ABS will receive an additional \$15 million annually in Government appropriation. For further information please refer to this [link](#).

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ABS RELEASE INFORMATION

The Australian Bureau of Statistics (ABS) website provides the expected release details for all statistical products due for publication in the coming six months.

The web page 'Releases Scheduled for the Next Six Months' is revised on the ABS website at the beginning of each month. This six-month forecasting is intended to keep clients informed about products and when they will become available.

All ABS core statistical and other statistical publications that usually have a catalogue number will be detailed as well as prominent non-statistical publications such as the ABS Annual Report and Australian Statistics Advisory Council Annual Report.

Access 'Releases Scheduled for the Next Six Months' from the ABS Home page via 'Future Releases' or use this [link](#).

Information on all ABS product releases can also be accessed from [ABS Release Advice](#). This web page also provides links to **Previous Releases**, **Releases Scheduled for the Next Six Months** and **Main Economic Indicator Releases**.

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QUEENSLAND THEME PAGE

[This page](#) provides access to Queensland statistical information including statistical releases and links to non-ABS sources. A wide range of economic and social statistics is covered.

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Population



POPULATION

Population change, Queensland

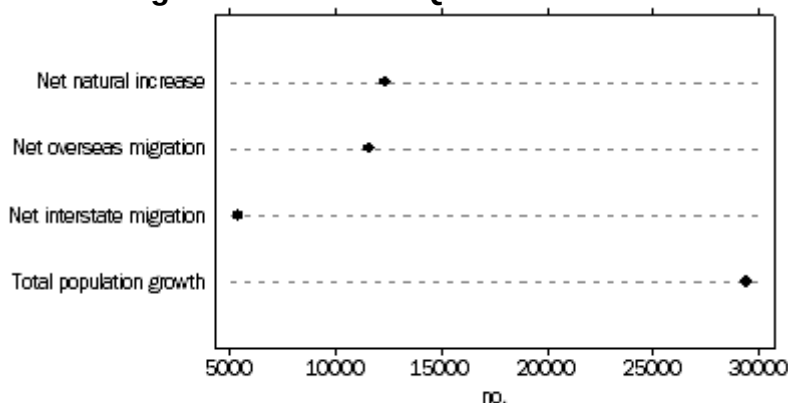
Regional population growth

POPULATION CHANGE, QUEENSLAND

The preliminary estimated resident population (ERP) for Queensland was 4,349,500 at 31 December 2008, an increase of 106,700 (2.5%) since 31 December 2007. Queensland accounted for 20% of the Australian population at 31 December 2008.

Between the September 2008 quarter and the December 2008 quarter, 42% (12,400 persons) of the total population increase of 29,400 persons was due to natural increase (excess of births over deaths), 39% (11,600 persons) to net overseas migration and 18% (5,400 persons) attributable to net interstate migration.

Population Change from Previous Quarter - December 2008 quarter



Source: Australian Demographic Statistics (cat. no. 3101.0).

Further information about Queensland's population can be accessed from [Australian Demographic Statistics](#) (cat. no. 3101.0) or by contacting the National Information and Referral Service on 1300 135 070. This publication is released quarterly.

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REGIONAL POPULATION GROWTH

At 30 June 2008, the Queensland population was estimated to be 4,293,900 persons. The south east corner comprising Brisbane, Gold Coast, Sunshine Coast and West Moreton Statistical Divisions accounted for two-thirds (66%) of the state's population.

Regional Population^(a), By Statistical Division - At 30 June - 2001, 2006, 2007 and 2008

	2001 '000	2006 '000	2007 '000	2008 '000
Statistical division				
Brisbane	1 663.1	1 857.8	1 902.2	1 945.6
Gold Coast	387.1	466.4	484.6	497.8
Sunshine Coast	247.2	295.1	304.1	312.8
West Moreton	77.2	86.4	88.6	90.7
Wide Bay-Burnett	232.0	264.1	271.3	278.0
Darling Downs	209.0	225.8	228.8	231.6
South West	27.0	26.4	26.2	26.2
Fitzroy	186.5	206.2	210.9	214.8
Central West	13.6	12.5	12.4	12.3

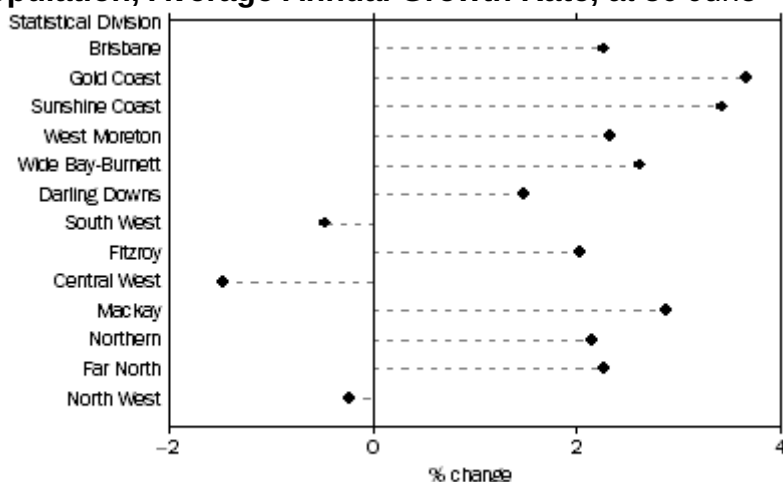
Mackay	137.5	159.8	163.6	167.7
Northern	190.3	209.9	215.4	220.7
Far North	224.2	247.3	254.3	262.1
North West	34.3	33.2	33.5	33.7
Queensland	3 628.9	4 090.9	4 196.0	4 293.9

(a) Estimates as at 30 June are final for 2001, preliminary rebased for 2006 on results of the Census of Population and Housing, 2006, revised for 2007 and preliminary for 2008. For all years, Statistical divisions are based on the Australian Standard Geographical Classification 2008 Edition.

Source: Regional Population Growth, Australia (cat. no. 3218.0).

The fastest growing statistical divisions over the seven years between 30 June 2001 and 30 June 2008 were Gold Coast with an average annual growth rate of 3.7%, Sunshine Coast (3.4%) and Mackay (2.9%). Three statistical divisions recorded negative average annual growth during the same period: North West (-0.2%), South West (-0.5%) and Central West (-1.5%).

Regional Population, Average Annual Growth Rate, at 30 June - 2001 to 2008



Source: Regional Population Growth, Australia (cat. no. 3218.0).

For more information on Queensland's regional population distribution, please refer to [Regional Population Growth, Australia](#) (cat. no. 3218.0) or contact the National Information and Referral Service on 1300 135 070. This publication is released annually.

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Labour Force



LABOUR FORCE

[Job vacancies](#)

[Employed persons](#)

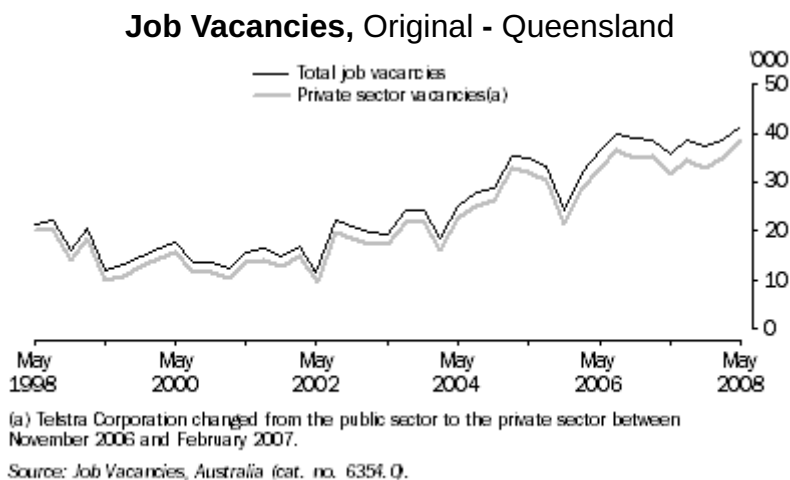
[Unemployment](#)

Participation Rate

Employed persons by industry

JOB VACANCIES

In original terms, Queensland's total number of job vacancies increased to 41,600 in May 2008 from 38,600 in February 2008. The May 2008 vacancies were 17% higher than in May 2007. Public sector vacancies accounted for around one in ten (7.7%) of total job vacancies in May 2008.

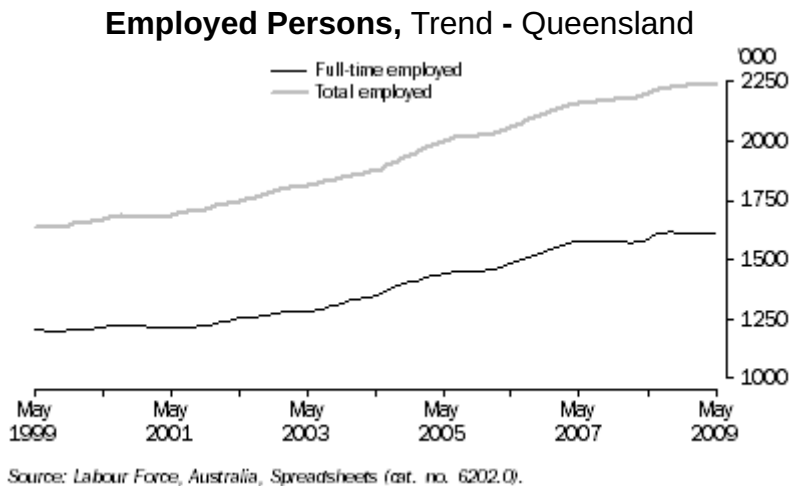


Further information on this topic can be accessed at [Job Vacancies, Australia](#) (cat. no. 6354.0). This is the final issue for 2008. The Survey of Job Vacancies will not be conducted during 2008-09. The survey may be reinstated in 2009-10.

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EMPLOYED PERSONS

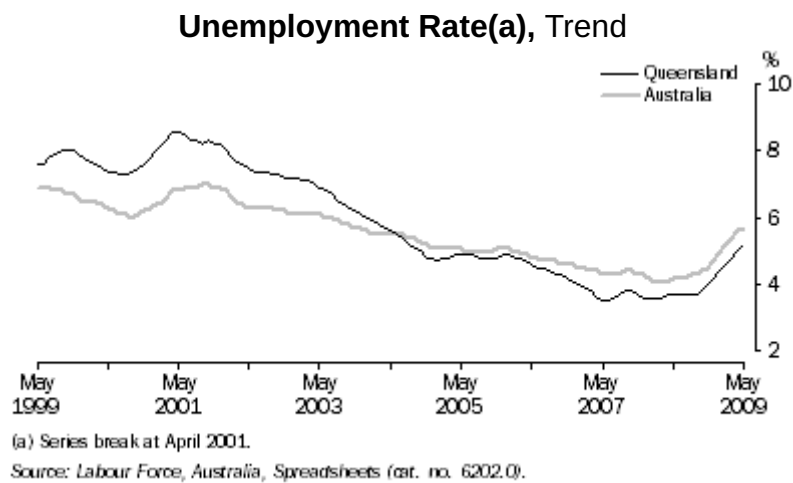
In May 2009, total employment in Queensland in trend terms rose to 2,232,800 persons. Full-time employed persons (1,609,200) accounted for 72% of total employed persons. Males accounted for 64% of full-time employed persons and 54% of total employed persons.



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UNEMPLOYMENT

The trend estimate of the number of unemployed persons in Queensland for May 2009 was 121,700 persons. This equates to an unemployment rate of 5.2%. Since July 2004, in trend estimate terms, the Queensland unemployment rate has been lower than the national unemployment rate.



In Queensland in May 2009 the male unemployment rate was 5.6%. The corresponding female unemployment rate was 4.6%. Male unemployment rates have exceeded female unemployment rates since November 2008. This is a recent change from the pattern of female unemployment rates exceeding their male counterparts from May 2002 to October 2008.

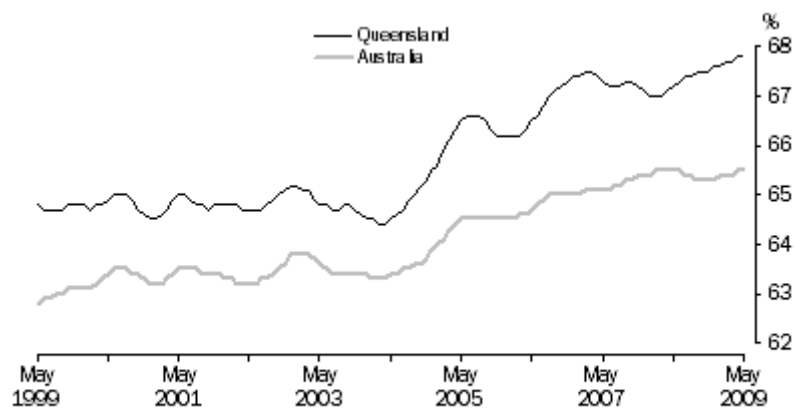


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PARTICIPATION RATE

The trend estimate of the participation rate for Queensland in May 2009 was 67.8%. This rate is 3.0 percentage points higher than in May 1999. Queensland has recorded equal to or higher participation rates than the national average since February 1989.

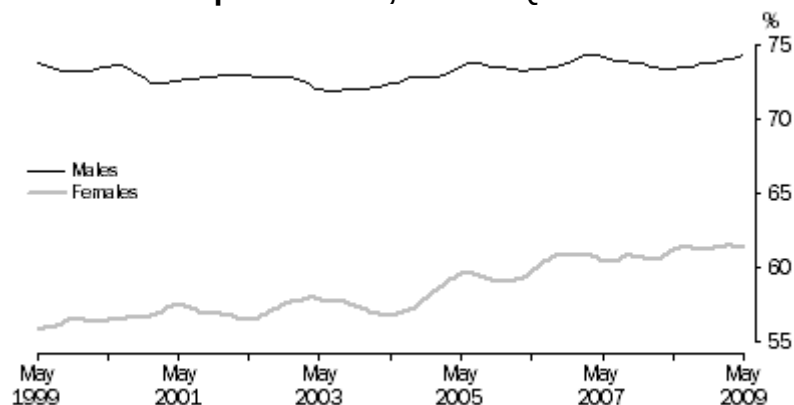
Participation Rate, Trend



Source: Labour Force, Australia, Spreadsheets, (cat. no. 6202.0).

For Queensland, the trend participation rate for females has been over 60% since June 2006, and recorded 61.4% in May 2009. This is a 5.5 percentage points increase on the female participation rate recorded in May 1999. The male participation rate in May 2009 was 74.3% which was 0.5 percentage points higher than the rate recorded for May 1999.

Participation Rate, Trend - Queensland



Source: Labour Force, Australia, Spreadsheets (cat. no. 6202.0).

Further information on these topics can be accessed at [Labour Force, Australia](#) (cat. no. 6202.0) or by contacting the National Information and Referral Service on 1300 135 070. These publications are released monthly.

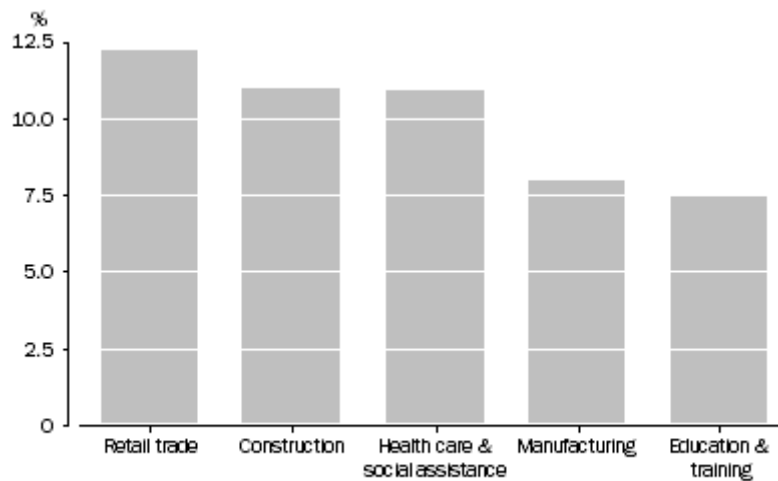
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EMPLOYED PERSONS BY INDUSTRY

There were 2,231,500 employed persons in Queensland in February 2009. The five major industries with the most number of employed persons were Retail trade (272,500), Construction (245,300), Health care and social assistance (243,600), Manufacturing (179,500) and Education and training (166,600). Those industries employing the least number of persons included Electricity, gas, water and waste services (31,200), Information, media and telecommunications (35,800) and Arts and recreation services (38,100).

The five major industries with the most number of employed persons accounted for one half (50%) of Queensland's employed.

Employed Persons by Industry, Original - Percentage of total employed: Queensland - February 2009



Source: Labour Force, Australia, Detailed, Quarterly (cat. no. 6291.0.55.003).

In the year February 2008 to February 2009, the greatest increase of employed persons occurred in the Mining industry (34%). In the same period, Rental, hiring and real estate services had the greatest decrease in employed persons with a reduction of 16%.

Note: Employed persons by industry has been reported in original terms and cannot be directly compared to the trend estimates reported for Labour Force.

For more detailed information on this topic, please refer to [Labour Force, Australia, Detailed, Quarterly](#) (cat. no. 6291.0.55.003) or contact the National Information and Referral Service on 1300 135 070. This publication is released quarterly.

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Prices



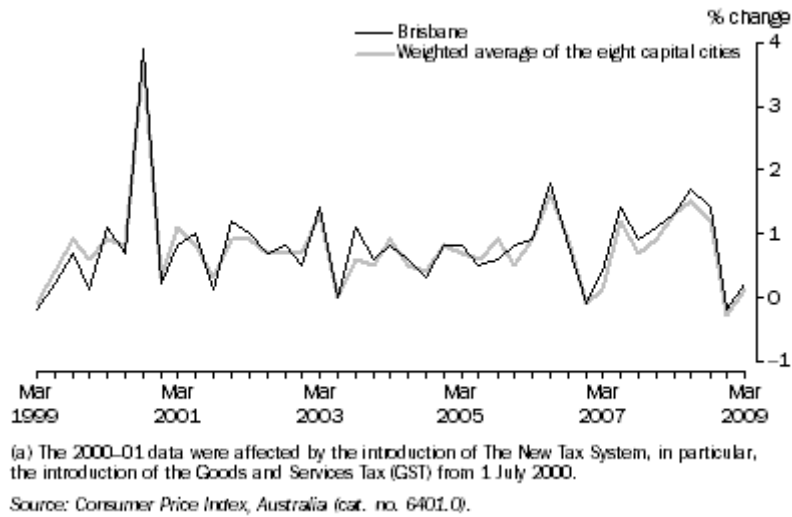
PRICES

CONSUMER PRICE INDEX

The all groups consumer price index (CPI) for Brisbane increased by 3.1% in the 12 months to March quarter 2009 compared with a 2.5% increase in the weighted average of the eight capital cities. Brisbane recorded the highest rise of any capital city. This higher result was largely due to stronger than average rises in housing and household contents and services.

Between the December quarter 2008 and the March quarter 2009 the Brisbane CPI increased by 0.2% compared with an increase of 0.1% for the weighted average of the eight capital cities. The food group recorded the largest positive contribution to the quarterly movement in all cities with the exception of Darwin.

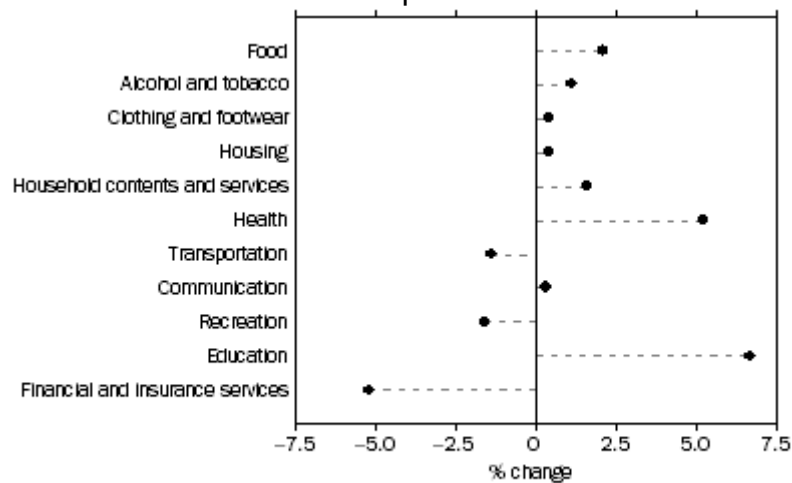
Consumer Price Index - All Groups, Original - Percentage change from previous quarter(a)



In the March 2009 quarter, the majority of Brisbane price categories groups increased compared with the previous quarter. The largest increases were Education (6.7%), Health (5.2%) and Food (2.1%).

Over the same period, Financial and Insurance services decreased 5.2%, Recreation 1.6% and Transportation 1.4%.

CPI Movement, Brisbane, Original - Percentage change from previous quarter: March 2009 quarter



For more detailed information on the consumer price index, please refer to [Consumer Price Index, Australia](#) (cat no. 6401.0) or contact the National Information and Referral Service on 1300 135 070. This publication is released quarterly.

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Production



PRODUCTION

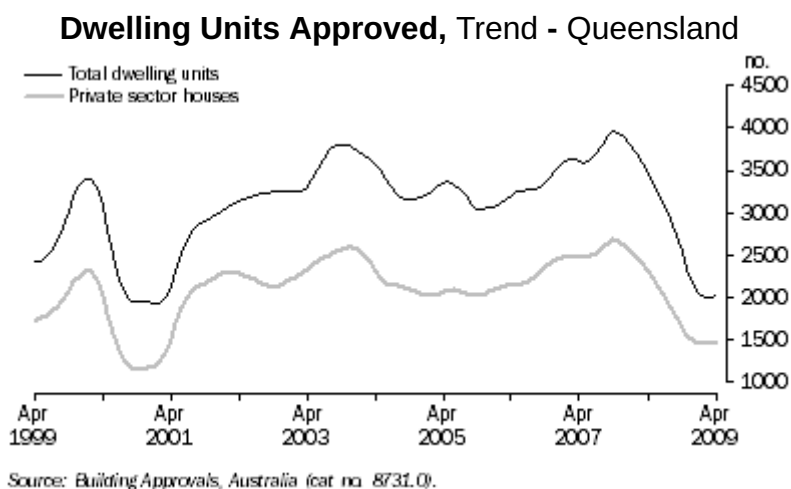
Building approvals

Building activity

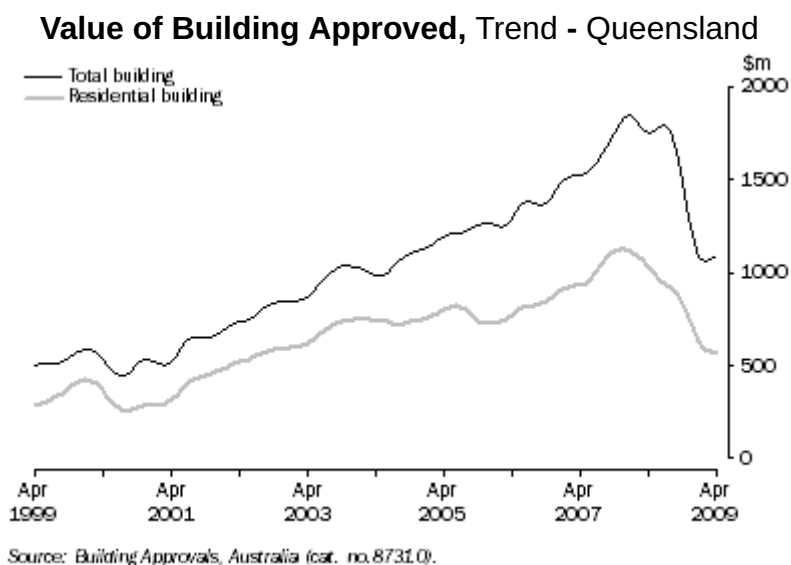
Engineering construction

BUILDING APPROVALS

In April 2009, the total number of dwelling units approved in Queensland in trend terms was 2,034. This was an increase of 2.0% from the previous month, following seventeen consecutive monthly falls. The trend estimate for private sector houses was 1,462 approvals which represents nearly three-quarters (72%) of total dwelling units approved.



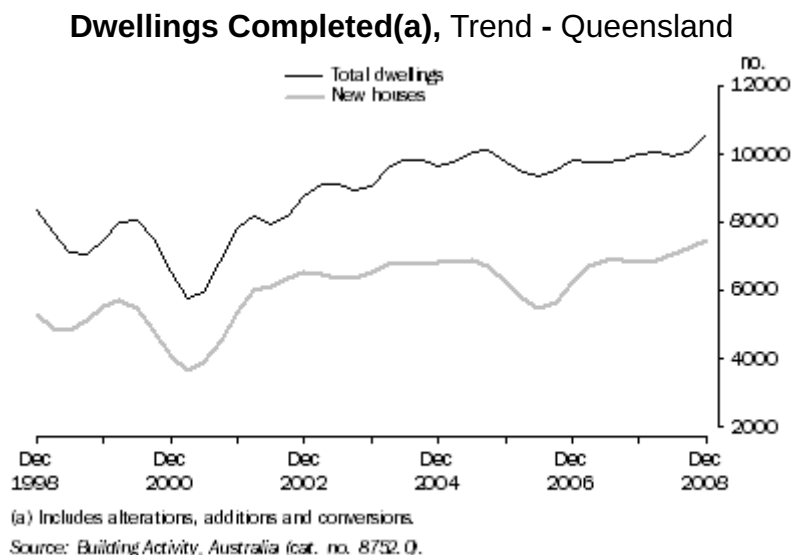
In April 2009, the total value of building approvals in trend terms was \$1,091.5 million, a 2.3% increase from the previous month and a 38% decrease from April 2008. Residential buildings accounted for 52% of the total value of buildings.



For more information on this topic, please refer to Building Approvals, Australia (cat. no. 8731.0) or contact the National Information and Referral Service on 1300 135 070. This

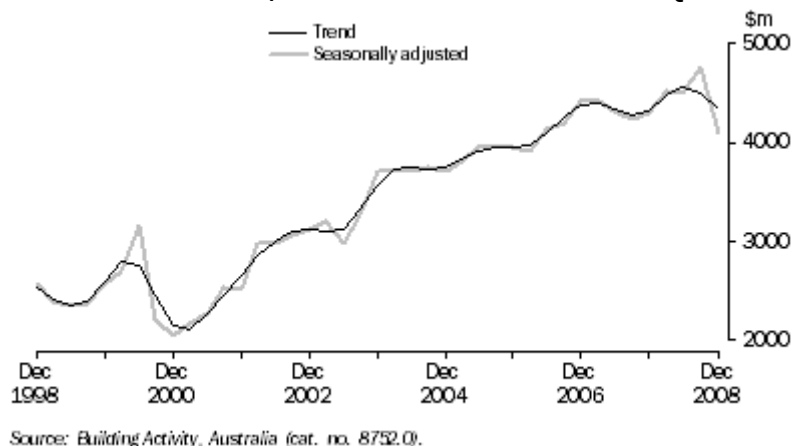
BUILDING ACTIVITY

In the December 2008 quarter, the total number of dwelling units completed in trend terms in Queensland was 10,588. This is an increase of 5.3% from the September 2008 quarter. There were 7,456 new houses completed during the December 2008 quarter which represents 70% of the total number of dwelling units completed.



In the December 2008 quarter, the trend estimate of the value of total building work done was \$4,338.9 million, a 0.3% increase from December 2007 quarter.

Value of Work Done, Chain Volume Measures - Queensland



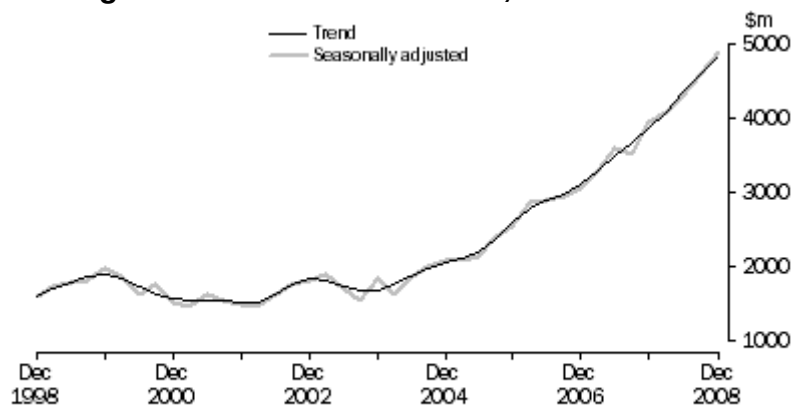
For more information on this topic, please refer to [Building Activity, Australia](#) (cat. no. 8752.0) or contact the National Information and Referral Service on 1300 135 070. This publication is released quarterly.

ENGINEERING CONSTRUCTION

Between the September 2008 and December 2008 quarters, the Queensland chain volume

trend estimate of the value of engineering construction increased by 5.4% to \$4,853.1 million. This continues the period of strong growth since December 2003 quarter.

Engineering Construction Work Done, Chain Volume Measures



For further information on this topic, access [Engineering Construction Activity, Australia](#) (cat. no. 8762.0) or contact the National Information and Referral Service on 1300 135 070. This publication is released quarterly.

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Housing Finance

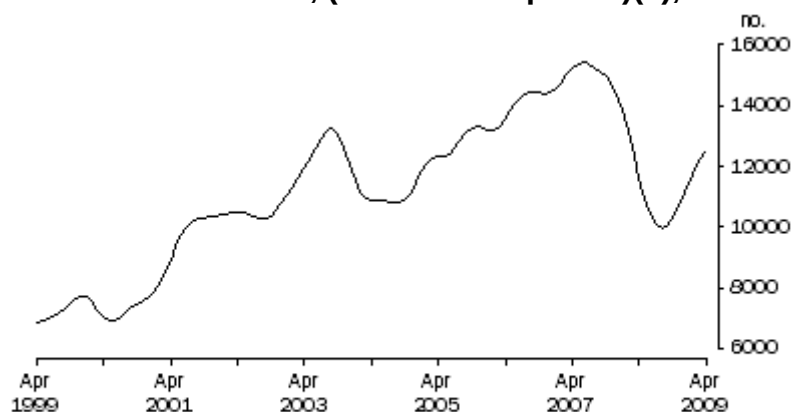


HOUSING FINANCE

HOUSING FINANCE COMMITMENTS

In Queensland, the number of owner occupied housing commitments in trend estimate terms increased to 12,541 (up 2.3%) from March 2009 to April 2009, the eighth consecutive monthly increase.

Housing Finance Commitments, (Owner Occupation)(a), Trend - Queensland

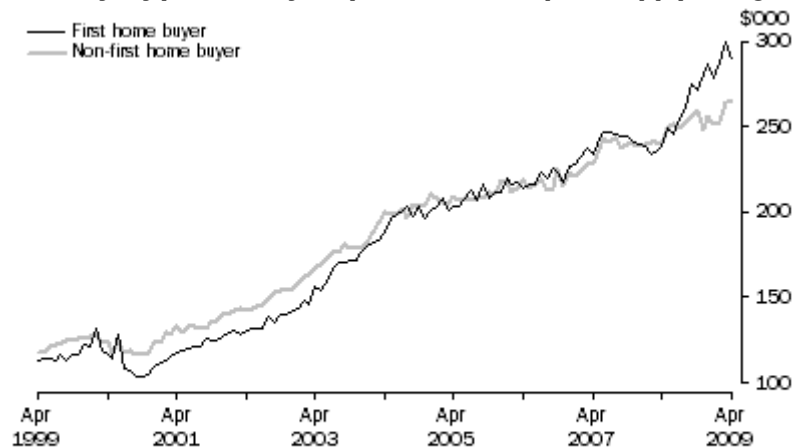


The trend estimate of the total value of housing finance commitments for owner occupation in Queensland increased by 3.1% to \$3,391 million, from March 2009 to April 2009. Over the year to April 2009, in trend estimate terms, the value of housing finance commitments showed an increase of 20%.

Since April 1999, the average home loan commitment for owner occupied dwellings in Queensland has more than doubled from \$116,700 to \$270,800.

In April 2009, the average loan size for first home buyers (\$288,700) decreased 3.7% from the previous month. The April 2009 average loan size for non-first home buyers (\$264,100) decreased 0.1% from the previous month.

Average Loan Size by Type of Buyer (Owner Occupation)(a), Original - Queensland



(a) Excludes alterations and additions. Includes refinancing.
Source: Housing Finance, Australia (cat. no. 5609.0).

Further information on this topic is available in [Housing Finance, Australia](#) (cat. no. 5609.0) or by contacting the National Information and Referral Service on 1300 135 070. This publication is released monthly.

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Incomes



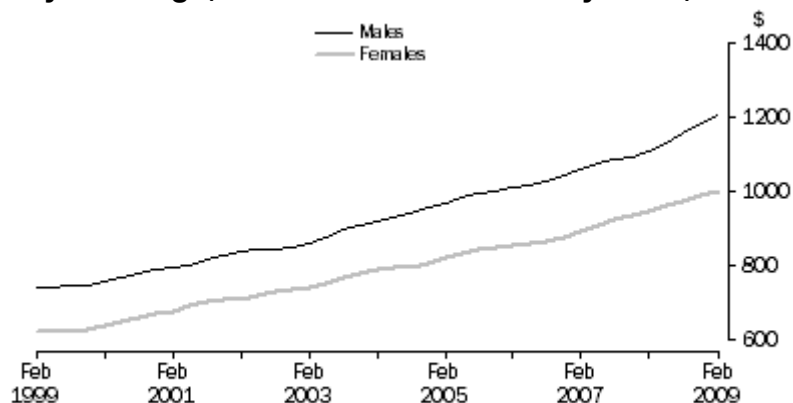
INCOMES

AVERAGE WEEKLY EARNINGS

The trend estimate of average weekly ordinary time earnings for full-time adult persons in Queensland increased by 8.0% to \$1,133.90 in the 12 months to February 2009. Nationally, the corresponding increase was lower at 5.9% (up to \$1,183.10).

The trend estimate of full-time adult average weekly ordinary time earnings in Queensland rose by 9.0% for males and 5.1% for females over the 12 months to February 2009. The February 2009 female estimate of \$999.40 was 83% of the corresponding male estimate of \$1,208.30.

Average Weekly Earnings, Full-Time Adult Ordinary Time, Trend - Queensland



Source: Average Weekly Earnings, Australia (cat. no. 6302.0).

More information on average weekly earnings can be accessed at [Average Weekly Earnings, Australia](#) (cat. no. 6302.0) or by contacting the National Information and Referral Service on 1300 135 070. This publication is released quarterly.

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Consumption and Investment



CONSUMPTION AND INVESTMENT

[Retail trade](#)

[New motor vehicle sales](#)

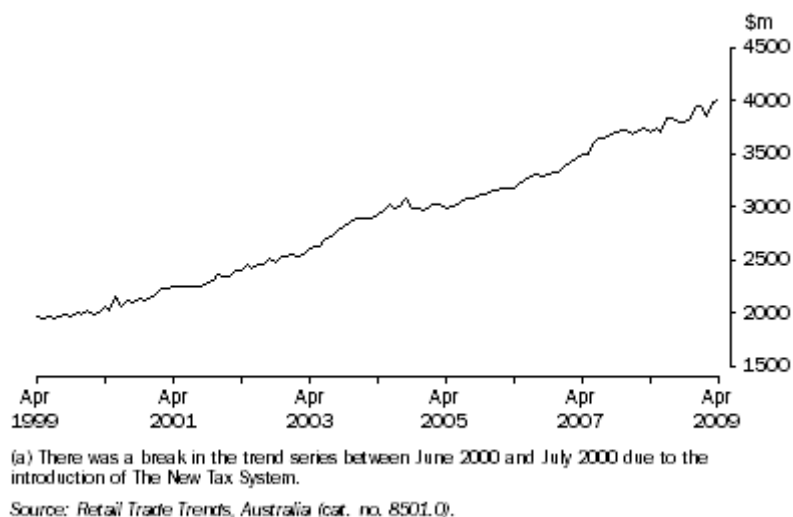
[Private new capital expenditure](#)

RETAIL TRADE

The Federal Government Economic Security Strategy Package implemented in December 2008 has impacted on Australian retail turnover. If trend estimates were to be calculated without fully accounting for this irregular event, they would be likely to provide a misleading view of the underlying trend in retail activity. Until data is available in future months, it is not possible to determine the trend in retail turnover through the period affected by the stimulus package. As a result, the retail trend series have been suspended as at November 2008.

The April 2009 seasonally adjusted estimate for Queensland's retail turnover was \$4,012 million, a 0.8% increase from March 2009. Food retailing accounted for the greatest proportion of retail turnover in April 2009, at 42%, followed by Household good retailing, at 16%.

Retail Turnover(a), Seasonally Adjusted, All Industries - Queensland



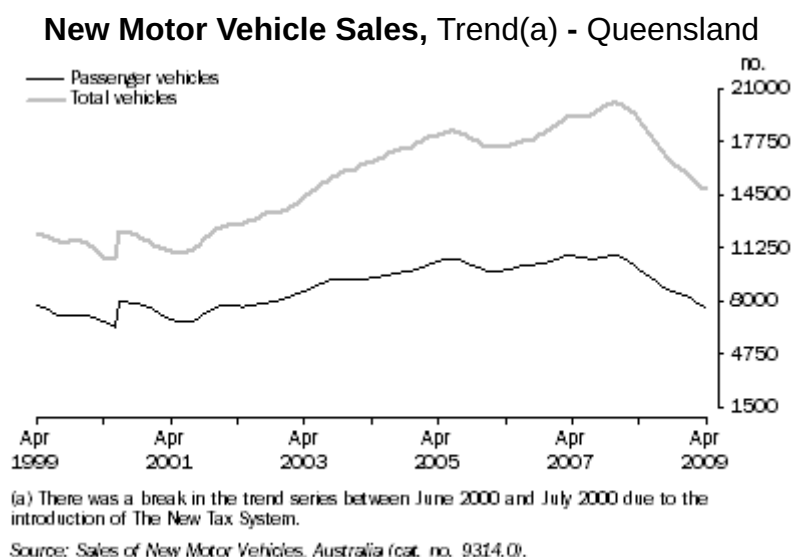
Further information about this topic can be accessed at [Retail Trade Trends, Australia](#) (cat. no. 8501.0) or by contacting the National Information and Referral Service on 1300 135 070. This publication is released monthly.

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NEW MOTOR VEHICLE SALES

In trend terms, 7,589 new passenger vehicles and 14,761 new vehicles in total were sold in Queensland in April 2009. Corresponding sales for Australia were 41,746 and 70,572. When comparing April 2009 with March 2009, Queensland recorded a 1.6% decrease in total new vehicle sales, the sixteenth consecutive monthly decrease.

In April 1999, new passenger vehicle sales accounted for 64% of total new vehicle sales in Queensland. By April 2009, the proportion for new passenger vehicle sales had fallen to 51%.



Further information about new motor vehicle sales can be accessed from [Sales of New Motor Vehicles, Australia](#) (cat. no. 9314.0) or by contacting the National Information and Referral Service on 1300 135 070. This publication is released monthly.

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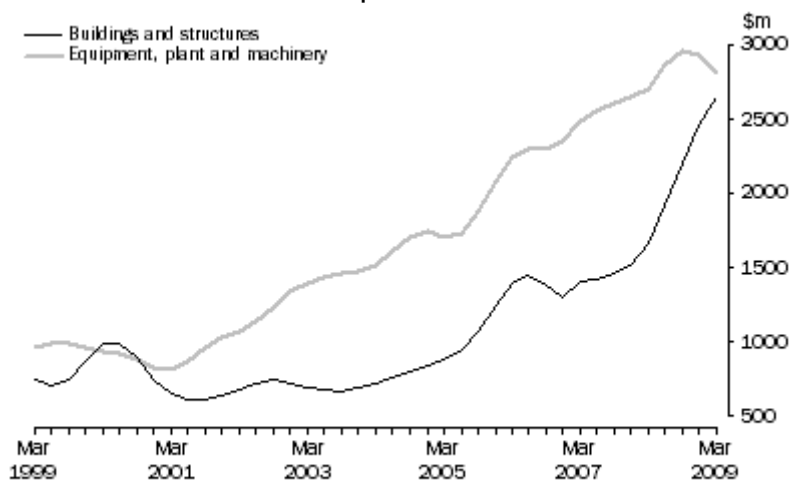
PRIVATE NEW CAPITAL EXPENDITURE

Between the December 2008 and the March 2009 quarters, the Queensland chain volume trend estimate of private new capital expenditure increased by 1.7% to \$5,480 million.

During the same period, expenditure on Equipment, plant and machinery decreased by 4.0% to \$2,814 million while expenditure on Buildings and structures increased by 7.7% to \$2,649 million.

Comparing the March 2009 quarter with the March 2008 quarter, Queensland's total private new capital expenditure increased by 26%. Expenditure on Equipment, plant and machinery grew by 4.1% and expenditure on Buildings and structures increased by 59%.

Private New Capital Expenditure, Trend, Chain Volume Measures - Queensland: by quarter



Source: Private New Capital Expenditure and Expected Expenditure, Australia (cat. no. 5625.0).

Further information on this topic can be accessed at [Private New Capital Expenditure and Expected Expenditure, Australia](#) (cat. no. 5625.0) or by contacting the National Information and Referral Service on 1300 135 070. This publication is released quarterly.

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Tourist Accommodation

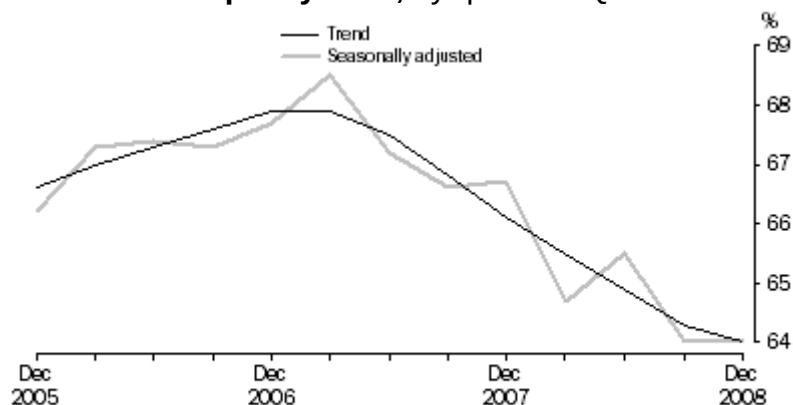


TOURIST ACCOMMODATION

QUEENSLAND HOTELS, MOTELS AND SERVICED APARTMENTS WITH 15 OR MORE ROOMS

In the December 2008 quarter, there were 1,131 hotels, motels and serviced apartments with 15 or more rooms. These establishments had a guest room capacity of 61,521 rooms. The trend estimate of the room occupancy rate for Queensland was 64.0%, slightly higher than the national average (63.7%).

Room Occupancy Rate, by quarter - Queensland



Source: Tourist Accommodation, Small Area Data, Queensland (cat. no. 8635.3.55.001).

In the December 2008 quarter, Queensland hotels, motels and serviced apartments with 15 or more rooms catered for 2.7 million guest arrivals. Queensland establishments reported the longest average length of stay for guests (2.7 days) of all states and territories. The national average was 2.3 days.

The trend estimate of Queensland total accommodation takings for hotels, motels and serviced apartments with 15 rooms was \$519.7 million in the December 2008 quarter.

For more detailed information on Queensland's tourist accommodation, please refer to [Tourist Accommodation, Australia](#) (cat. no. 8635.0) and [Tourist Accommodation, Small Area Data, Queensland](#) (cat. no. 8635.3.55.001) or contact the National Information and Referral Service on 1300 135 070. This publication and data cube are released quarterly.

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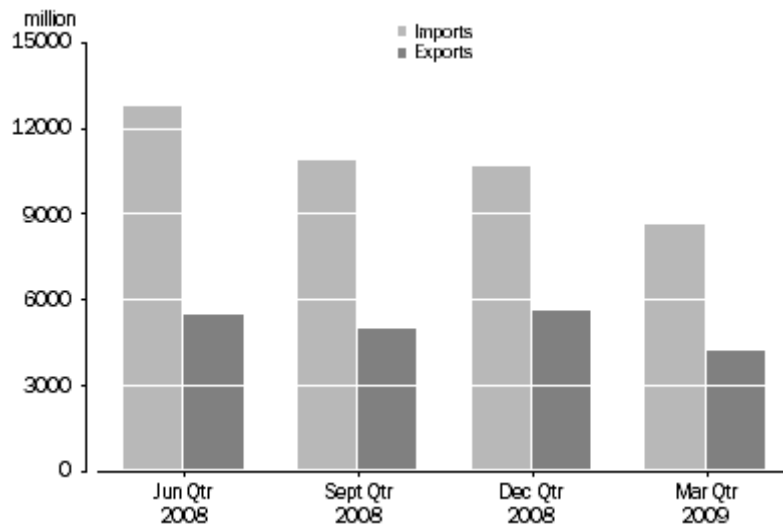
Interstate Trade



INTERSTATE TRADE

The value of interstate imports for Queensland in the March quarter 2009 was \$8,598.5 million, a 19% decrease from the previous quarter. The value of interstate exports in the March quarter 2009 was \$4,190.5 million, a 25% decrease from the previous quarter.

Queensland Interstate Trade



Note: Interstate trade data are released quarterly. This is the fourth quarter for which the Queensland interstate trade estimates have been produced using sample survey methodology. As the new methodology differs significantly from that of the old survey, the results should be considered a break in series.

Further information on this topic can be accessed at Interstate Trade, Queensland (cat. no. 8502.3) or by contacting Queensland Interstate Trade on 1800 654 467. This is the first issue of this publication and it will be released quarterly.

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State Accounts

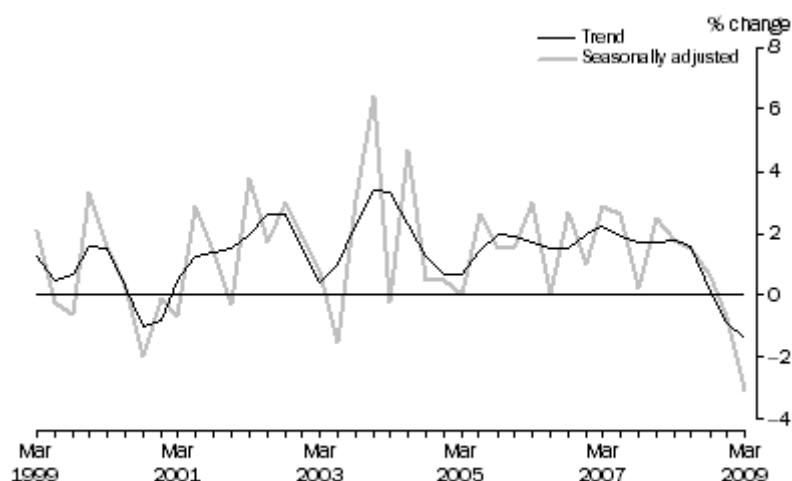


STATE ACCOUNTS

Queensland's March quarter 2009 State Final Demand in chain volume (trend) terms was \$56,734 million, a \$830 million (1.4%) decrease from the December quarter 2008. Australia's Domestic Final Demand decreased 0.3% over the same period, to \$283,026 million.

South Australia (up 0.6%), was the only state or territory to record positive growth in trend terms in the March quarter 2009.

State Final Demand, Chain volume measures - Percentage change from previous quarter



Source: Australian National Accounts: National Income, Expenditure and Product (cat. no. 5206.0).

For more detailed information on this topic, please refer to [Australian National Accounts: National Income, Expenditure and Product](#) (cat. no. 5206.0) or contact the National Information and Referral Service on 1300 135 070. This publication is released quarterly.

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Articles

ARTICLES

ARTICLES ON STATISTICAL ISSUES WITH A QUEENSLAND THEME

Land Management and Farming in Queensland, 2007-08

This article presents information on agricultural land management practices. Data were collected in the 2007–08 Agricultural Resource Management Survey (ARMS) conducted by the ABS.

The article provides important information on a variety of management practices of Queensland agricultural businesses, including cropping and pasture management, soil management, fertiliser use, surface water and effluent management, natural environment conservation protection and farm management.

Index of previous articles

This provides a list of articles that have been released in previous issues of Qld Stats with links to those articles.

Index of Articles

Issue	Article Title
2009	
May	Causes of Death, Queensland, 2007

April	Criminal Courts in Queensland, 2007-08
February	150 Years of Queensland's Economic History: Key Dates, Facts and Figures
January	Deaths, Queensland, 2007
2008	
November	Births, Queensland, 2007
October	Water Use on Queensland Farms, 2006-07
August	Natural Resource Management on Queensland Farms, 2006-07
July	Recorded Crime - Victims, Queensland, 2007 Forms of Employment, Queensland - November 2007
June	Labour Force Characteristics of Queensland Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander People, 2007 Household Preparedness for Emergencies Queensland - October 2007
May	Involvement in Organised Sport and Physical Activity, Queensland, April 2007
April	General Social Survey, 2006: Financial Stressors, Queensland
2007	
December	General Social Survey, 2006: Personal Stressors, Queensland
November	Census Data - Second Release Young People in the Labour Market, Queensland, 2007
September	General Social Survey, 2006: Characteristics of Family and Community Support & Crime and Safety
July	Forms of Employment, Queensland, November 2006 Working Time Arrangements, Queensland, November 2006
June	Preferred Working Hours of Wage and Salary Earners, Queensland, October 2006
May	National Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Health Survey: Queensland, 2004-05 Energy Use and Conservation, March 2005

About this Release

Qld Stats is an electronic magazine containing an overview of Queensland's key economic and social indicators presented in graphs, tables and analytical summaries with links to more detailed products. Qld Stats also contains news of seminars, releases and other matters of statistical interest for Queensland.

Qld Stats replaces Queensland Key Statistics (cat. no. 1388.3) and Statistical Update, Queensland (cat. no. 1316.3). These two products have been discontinued.

Qld Stats is issued monthly, after the release of Labour Force data, with tables and graphs updated to the latest available data. Analytical summaries are included when available.

Readers can get further information, including Explanatory Notes, on each of the topics by using the links to source materials contained on each page.

Land Management and Farming in Queensland, 2007-08

(Feature Article)

LAND MANAGEMENT AND FARMING IN QUEENSLAND, 2007-08

Introduction

Land use and agricultural activity

Land management practices

Protecting the natural environment for conservation purposes

Tillage and fallow land

Crop residue

Ground cover

Fertiliser usage

Soil acidity

Further information

INTRODUCTION

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The article provides important information on a variety of management practices of Queensland agricultural businesses, including cropping and pasture management, soil management, fertiliser use, surface water and effluent management, natural environment conservation protection and farm management.

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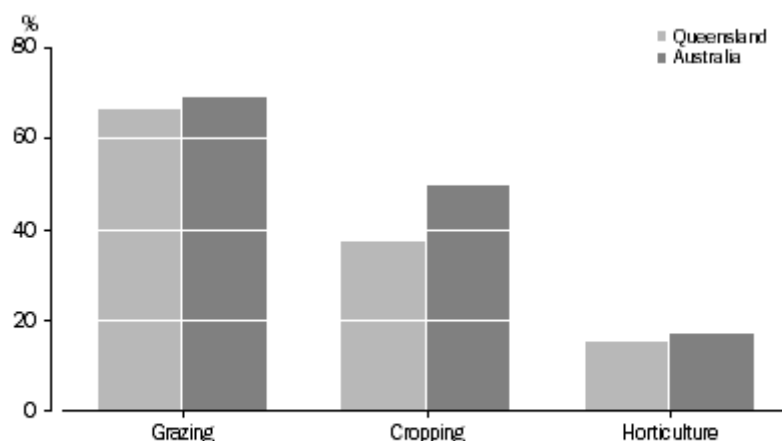
LAND USE AND AGRICULTURAL ACTIVITY

In 2007-08, of all the states and territories, Queensland (82% of state area) had the highest proportion of total land area that was managed by agricultural businesses.

In Queensland, of the 141 million hectares of land managed by agricultural businesses, grazing land accounted for 94%. This included both grazing on improved pasture (23% of agricultural land use) and other grazing land (71% of agricultural land use). Other agricultural land use included 2.4% for cropping. Land on agricultural holdings that was not used for agriculture included 2.1% set aside for conservation.

In 2007-08, the majority of the 29,121 Queensland agricultural businesses were engaged in grazing (66%). Over a third (37%) of all agricultural businesses in Queensland were engaged in cropping activities and a further 15% in horticulture.

Agricultural Businesses(a) by Major Agricultural Activity, 2007-08



(a) Many agricultural businesses undertake more than one major agricultural activity. Therefore the sum of the agricultural businesses undertaking major agricultural activities may exceed the total number of agricultural businesses.

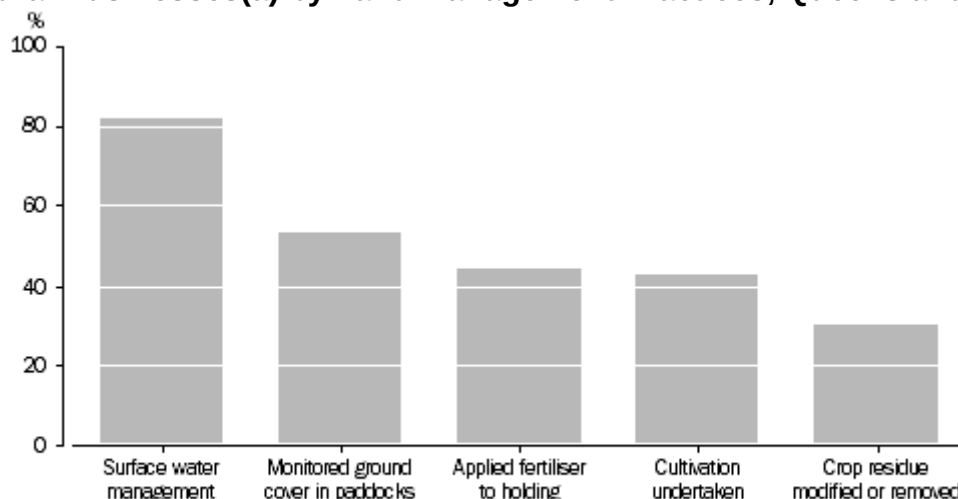
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LAND MANAGEMENT PRACTICES

The most common land management practices undertaken by Queensland agricultural businesses in 2007-08 were surface water management (82% of agricultural businesses), monitoring ground cover in paddocks (53%) and application of fertiliser (44%).

Similar to the national average (63%), nearly two-thirds (65%) of Queensland agricultural businesses reported making one or more land management changes over the last five years to address land and soil related problems on their holding.

Agricultural Businesses(a) by Land Management Practices, Queensland, 2007-08



(a) Many agricultural businesses undertake more than one land management practice. Therefore the sum of the agricultural businesses undertaking land management practices may exceed the total number of agricultural businesses.

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PROTECTING THE NATURAL ENVIRONMENT FOR CONSERVATION PURPOSES

In 2007-08, 21,476 agricultural businesses or 74% of all Queensland agricultural businesses reported having native vegetation on their holding and just under half (48%) of these protected their native vegetation for conservation purposes.

Rivers or creeks on holdings were reported by 17,555 agricultural businesses or 60% of all Queensland agricultural businesses with 51% of these protecting their river or creek banks for conservation purposes.

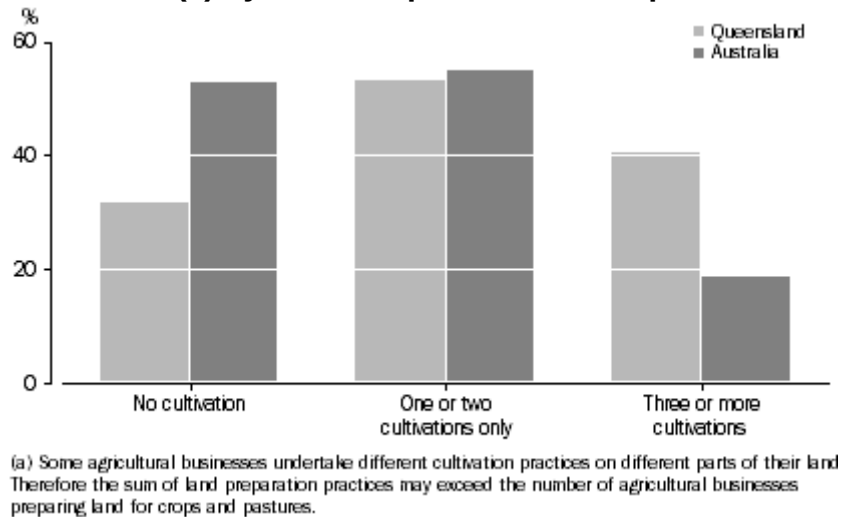
Wetlands on holdings were reported by 2,543 agricultural businesses or 8.7% of all Queensland agricultural businesses with 42% of these businesses reporting that they had protected their wetlands for conservation purposes.

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TILLAGE AND FALLOW LAND

In 2007-08, 14,308 Queensland agricultural businesses reported that they had prepared land for crops and pastures. Most of these undertook one or two cultivation passes (53%) with 41% reporting three or more cultivations. Of agricultural businesses preparing land for crops or pastures 32% reported using zero-tillage.

Agricultural Businesses(a) by Land Preparation for Crops and Pastures, 2007-08



In Queensland, of the 2.7 million hectares of land prepared for crops and pastures, 47% was prepared using zero-till compared with 53% prepared with using one or more cultivation passes. Nationally, 65% of the 26.9 million hectares prepared for crops and pastures was prepared using zero-till.

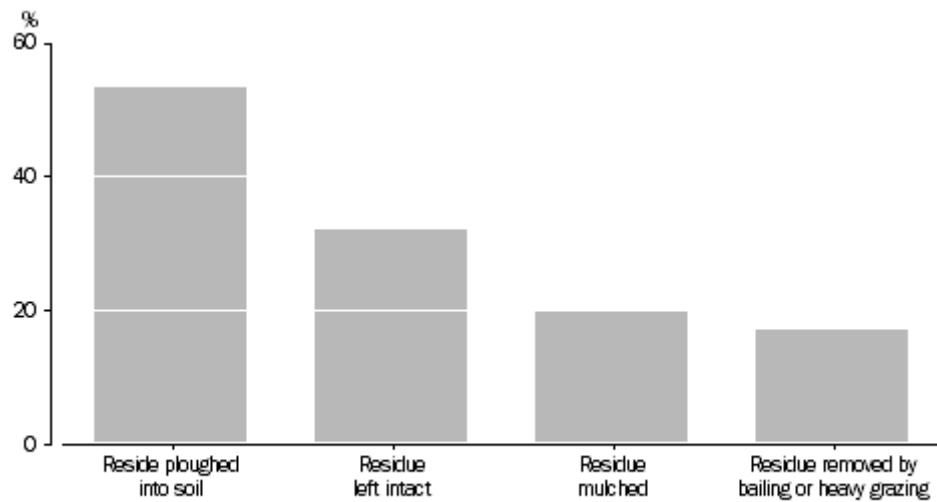
Of Queensland's 2.4 million hectares of cropping land left fallow between crops, nearly two-thirds (65%) was left fallow for three to nine months. Land left fallow for under three months accounted for 8.2% and land left fallow for more than nine months 27%.

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CROP RESIDUE

In 2007-08, 10,682 agricultural businesses or 37% of all Queensland agricultural businesses reported managing crop residue. The most common crop residue management practice undertaken in Queensland was to plough crop residue into the soil (53% of agricultural businesses managing crop residue), followed by crop residue left intact (no cultivation) at 32%.

Agricultural Businesses(a) by Crop Residue Management Practices, Queensland, 2007-08



(a) Some agricultural businesses undertake more than one crop residue management practice. Therefore the sum of the crop residue management practices may exceed the number of agricultural businesses managing crop residue.

Of the 2.4 million hectares under crop residue management, crop residue left intact (no cultivation) accounted for 50% of this land followed by crop residue ploughed into the soil (29%).

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GROUND COVER

Of the 21,418 Queensland agricultural businesses grazing livestock on crops or pastures, 72% monitor the amount of ground cover in paddocks and 65% of these have established a minimum ground cover level target.

By far the most common method undertaken by agricultural businesses for monitoring ground cover was visual estimates, with 96% reporting using this method. The next most common method, was using photo monitoring standards (comparison with photos of known ground cover levels) reported by 1.6% of agricultural businesses that monitor ground cover.

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FERTILISER USAGE

A large proportion (62%) of agricultural businesses in Australia applied fertiliser to their holding between 1 July 2007 and 30 June 2008. The lowest percentage of fertiliser use by agricultural businesses was reported in Queensland (44%).

In Queensland, the most common type of fertiliser used was urea (50% of agricultural businesses using fertiliser) followed by all other manufactured fertilisers (44%). Nationally, around one in three (33%) agricultural businesses that used fertiliser on their holding reported using single superphosphate. In Queensland, superphosphate was reported by only 7% of agricultural businesses that used fertiliser.

In Queensland, the average application rates for manufactured fertilisers ranged between 0.06 and 0.34 tonnes per hectare. The application rate for animal manure was 6.65 tonnes per hectare, more than double the national average (3.19 tonnes per hectare).

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SOIL ACIDITY

In 2007-08, 3,317 agricultural businesses or 11% of all Queensland agricultural businesses reported undertaking activities to prevent or manage soil acidity. The most common activities to prevent or manage soil acidity were the application of lime and dolomite. In

Queensland, the proportion of agricultural businesses managing soil acidity by applying lime was 58% and by applying dolomite was 19%.

While the application of soil conditioners was the dominant activity undertaken to prevent or manage soil acidity, 22% of agricultural businesses managing soil acidity reported changing the type of fertiliser used and 14% reported other methods.

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FURTHER INFORMATION

Land Management and Farming in Australia, 2007-8 (cat. no. 4627.0)

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